

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 - 16. (Previously Cancelled).

17. (Cancelled).

18. (Cancelled).

~~19.~~ (Previously Presented) A functionalized silsesquioxane, selected from the group consisting of octakis(aminophenyl)silsesquioxane, octakis(N-maleimidoaminophenyl)silsesquioxane, octakis(acetylphenyl)silsesquioxane, and octakis(bromophenyl)silsesquioxane).

20. (Cancelled).

~~21.~~ (Previously Presented) A method of preparing functionalized silsesquioxane macromonomers comprising providing a phenyl-substituted silsesquioxane and substituting phenyl group(s) of said phenyl-substituted silsesquioxane with a reactive functional group or precursor thereof wherein said step of substituting comprises nitrating phenyl groups of said phenyl-substituted silsesquioxane to form a nitrophenyl-substituted silsesquioxane followed by reducing the nitrophenyl groups to aminophenyl groups to form an aminophenyl-substituted silsesquioxane.

22 - 27. (Cancelled)

~~38.~~ (Previously Presented) In a process for the preparation of a functionalized silsesquioxane wherein a silica source is converted to polyanionic form employing a quaternary ammonium hydroxide, followed by reaction with a

hydridoalkylchlorosilane to form a silsesquioxane bearing hydridosilyl-functional reactive groups, and optionally employing said silsesquioxane bearing hydridosilyl-functional reactive groups to hydrosilylate an unsaturated organic compound, the improvement comprising selecting as the silica source a silica source obtained from the combustion or calcination of silica-containing natural products.

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4. ~~39~~. (Previously Presented) The process of claim ~~38~~ wherein said silica source is one or more of fly ash or rice hull ash.